



# The KHC Newsletter

## Vol. II

*Keep Troth!*



*Picture by Peter Drew, son of Terrill (Abbott) Drew, KHC'56*



### News About the Bell: Restoration and its Future

With the generosity of many KHC alumnae, we've raised \$34,245.75 for the St James the Less Church project. As for the bell, after it was removed from the tower, it was sent to Montreal to be restored. From Margot Heyerhoff: "We are working this winter on designs for the support system to display the bell which will be submitted to the BCS Board by the spring. As you may recall, we wanted them to leave the patina of age - not make it brassy looking." The main repairs are where the bell attaches to the yoke.

We can't wait to have the bell displayed on the BCS campus. Thank you to all of the donors who helped us preserve this important piece of history.

### Save the date!

May 9, 2017  
KHC/BCS Ladies  
Luncheon in Toronto  
at the Badminton and  
Racquet Club,  
25 St Clair Ave W,  
Toronto, ON M4V1K6

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## The Class of 56 Celebrating “60 years On”

They came from all over: Terri Abbott from Bermuda, Beachy Bogert from Metis Beach, Babbie Fellowes from Maine, Claire Hudson from Florida, Mika Ignatieff from Colorado, Pat Jackson from Mississauga, Brenda Keddle from Victoria, Marian MacDougall from Vancouver, Judy McColm from Calgary, Jill Pacaud from Windsor Que., Eve Smith from Halifax, Sue Throsby from Collingwood, Debbie Troop from Bloomfield Ont., and Sheila Grier from Toronto.

We heard from those classmates who wanted to be with us, but could not come: Sue Ward from Texas, Barb Kerr from Vernon, Luciana Wagner from Belgium, Penny Parsons and Suzanne Schneider from Philadelphia, Sandy Stewart from Paris, Gay Harding from Australia, and Eve Hargraft from Newfoundland.

Juliana De Kuyper and Gael Eakin were at home in Georgeville to receive the 60<sup>th</sup> reunion for our class of '56 at the end of June. The first evening there, there was only seven of us, so we had a head start in catching up. For the next three days, we talked and laughed and learned about lives lived. What amazing lives! We were such an interesting, and diverse class.

The second night we had dinner in Georgeville and celebrated Eve Smith's 77<sup>th</sup> birthday. The following day we all went over to BCS where, thanks to Susan Cook, we were royally received. The archivist, Merrylou Smith, and her two young helpers were very interested in stories of our school days. We were given a lovely lunch and a warm welcome from the Head of School, Tyler Lewis, (who looked about 22 years old to us!).

We then went over to King's Hall, where it was arranged for us to be able to explore, trying to find our old rooms (converted to plush hotel rooms), and to view, with nostalgia, the prep hall, the gym, and the pool, that were all abandoned. We walked the glass passage, went INTO the staff room (no more smell of smoke!), and UP the forbidden front stairs. We posed for a video reciting, “I had to laugh to see a calf walk down the path...”

That evening, we had a barbeque for 20 of us on the veranda of Gael's house. Beachy's husband Patrick was the chef, and their two dogs kept us company. Sadly, it was that day we learned of the passing of Susan Kilgour who had planned to come to the reunion from B.C. She had kept in touch with several of us, but had to cancel as her health failed her. We paid tribute to her at our dinner.

On the last day of our trip, we all went off in separate directions with sadness, but with wonderful memories, and our bonds strengthened.



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### A message from the BCS Head of School, Tyler Lewis:

*Bishop's College School would like thank the KHC Class of 1956 for their continued connection to our shared school communities.*

*We are so grateful that you accepted our invitation to visit BCS on the occasion of your reunion. Many of you travelled a great distance to take part in our activities and reception, some from as far west as British Columbia and others as far south as Florida. We thank you!*

*Each year, the KHC Old Girls' Scholarship helps a female student attend BCS, and we also recognize the achievements of our outstanding girls with the Winsor Shield, the King's Hall Cup, the 40 Years On Shield, the Madame Cailteux Prize, the Jennifer Wade Award, the Laura Joll Award, and the Gillard Award. BCS girls are continuing your KHC traditions, and your participation is maintaining the KHC legacy as a vibrant part of life here at BCS.*

*Please stay in touch, as we are always pleased to hear from you, and we appreciate the involvement of our KHC alumnae.*



## Reunion for the Class of '61

From Gillian Rowan-Legg Booth: "Rothesay, N.B. in late August was the venue for the gathering of the class of '61 in celebration of the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our graduation. With Peggy Butterfield Couper, born in and summer resident of Rothesay as our fearless leader, we were in good hands!

From Nova Scotia, Bermuda, Toronto, Montreal, Colorado and London, UK, came ten 'old girls' (old in years perhaps, but not in spirit!). Francie Bieler, Peggy Butterfield, Heather Grant, Martha Meagher, Mary Molson, Gill MacLaren, Sue MacLaren, Becky Romano, Gillian Rowan-Legg and Judy Westwater, along with four intrepid husbands comprised the group. Walks through beautiful places, drives with three ferry crossings, a tour of St. John, wonderful dinners (one hosted by Peggy and Colin Couper, and the second at the Inn where we celebrated Becky's birthday and were treated by her husband Jimmy), were all beautifully arranged by Peggy whose enthusiasm for New Brunswick, as she led us about, was infectious. At lunch in Gagetown on the banks of the St. John River, Becky did a dramatic reading of one of Gilly's 'My dear Girls', 'Yours Affectionately' letters. The fact that Becky had kept the letter for 55 years is a testament to the impact of Gilly on our lives. Fifty-five years had passed since Becky went off to UCLA and we had the pleasure of her presence with us again. The gaps were so easily bridged with chatter and laughter abounding!



Another highlight was a telephone conversation with Diana Gordon whose health precluded her from being with us. As well, Jane MacDougald, Joan Booth and Brooke Barrett's hopes to come were not to be realized. Next time we hope!

The group resolved to meet again in two years time, when we hope that our ten will expand. Keep Troth and stay well... 'till we meet again."

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### In memory of Susan Kilgour, KHC'56

Susan Carolyn Van Alstyne (nee Kilgour) of Edmonton, Alberta, formerly of Vernon, British Columbia, passed away on Saturday, June 25, 2016 at the age of 77 years.

Susan was born at the Royal Victoria Hospital (where her mother had been a nurse) in Montreal on March 6, 1939. She cherished her memories of growing up in her family home, "Roseneath", in Beauharnois, Quebec and often reminisced about having had a wonderful childhood. Beginning with her boarding school experience at King's Hall, Compton, Susan loved her years of education and won awards for her literary prowess. She then attended Wells College in Aurora, New York where she obtained her Bachelor of Arts in English in 1960 and immensely enjoyed the social experiences of college life. Following that, she completed her Masters in Library Science at McGill University, highlighting her life-long love affair with books and literature.

It was also through McGill that she met her other life-long love; Hugh Van Alstyne! They were married on April 28, 1962 and embarked on an adventurous life together, moving around the country wherever Hugh's job took them. No matter where they lived, Susan dedicated herself to caring for her family in the warm and well-organized home she always established for them. Wonderful friendships blossomed in each of these places and have endured throughout the years. 'Sue' had many other interests, including: reading books and writing letters, horses and dogs, opera and theatre, art and antiques, ballet and figure skating, and especially keeping track of British Royalty and family history!

Wherever she was her thoughtful and encouraging nature touched a wide circle of people and her amazing memory made everyone feel especially important. What a gift! Sue's memory will live on in the hearts of those who loved her: children Claire Van Alstyne (Stephen Flaherty) of Hamilton ON, Cynthia (Richard) Schultz of Hay Lakes AB, and Heather (Robert) Gallivan of New York City; grandchildren William, Alexander, Margaret, Edward, Peter, Aaron, Clay and Dustin. Susan was predeceased by her husband Hugh (in April 2015), and her younger brother John Kilgour (in March 2016).

If family and friends so desire, memorial contributions are gratefully accepted to the Stollery Children's Hospital, or to the LongRun Thoroughbred Retirement Society, 555 Rexdale Blvd, PO Box 156, Toronto, ON, M9W 5L2.

## Class notes

### Heneker-Williams Society Announcement



Margot Graham-Heyerhoff, KHC'69 and Rae Heenan, KHC'55, have both accepted the BCS Board's nomination as

the next Heneker-Williams Society inductees. After a call from the Chair of the BCS Association, Tim Price, BCS'75, both women were delighted to be inducted into the Society. They are both relieved to be honoured together, and to celebrate King's Hall, Compton. Neither wanted to be the centre of attention!

*The Heneker-Williams Society has been created by the Board of Directors of the BCS Association to honour individuals who, by leadership and example, have set the standard for volunteer support of Bishop's College School and King's Hall, Compton.*

### Ladies Luncheon back at the

**Hillside :** On May 27, 2016, 30 KHC Old Girls gathered together for the annual BCS/KHC Ladies Luncheon. The social was hosted at the Hillside Tennis Club in Montreal after a few years of being held at other restaurants. During the lunch, the ladies got to meet the new Head of School Tyler Lewis and his wife Renee. Two BCS students, Hanna Unis-Thibault and Jessica Pigeon (daughter of alumna Kari Bowser, BCS'80), spoke to the crowd about their school work, the history between the two schools and what they would like to do after graduating. We hope to see you on May 26 2018!

**Jocelyn (Pangman) Shaw, KHC'43** writes: "A quick note to say that due to the kindness of friends, my name was submitted to the Governor General's Office for recognition of a long life of Volunteering. To my surprise and delight, I am being awarded the *Sovereign's Award for Caring*. I await notice of whether I go to Ottawa or received a medal here in Toronto."

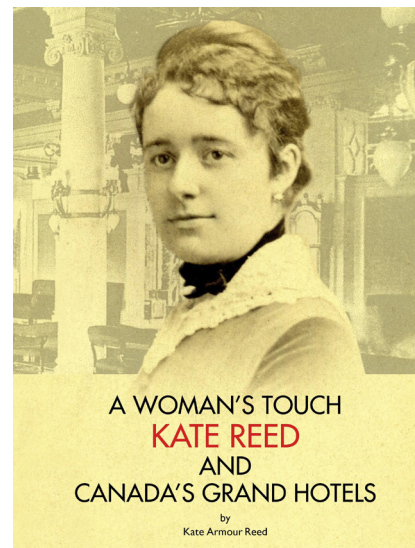
**Barbara Ronalds Geerkens, KHC'43**, writes: "As I reminisce about my life (which has been a very long one!) I find that I spend a lot of time remembering the olden days and in particular my three years at KHC! As a small girl I would sit beside my Granny McKee learning how to knit as she would tell me about her time at boarding school, and how daring some of the girls were, how some had climbed out of the window onto the roof! Imagine that! My mother would tell me about her times at King's Hall, too, and told me that one day I would go there. Which, of course, I did...I remember after chalking up the usual order marks in 6B, my first year, that Gilly wasted no time reminding me that I was the first third generation girl to attend KHC and I should consider shaping up! While I didn't climb out onto the roof while still in 6B, a nice English girl, Anne Hancock, suggested that we try to cover the whole school after lights out - trying to avoid bumping into Jimmy, the night watchman! We did, and though I do not remember how far we got, we were not caught before returning to our rooms! Hank, as she was affectionately called, was one of our War Guests and after the war when I was in England I looked her up. She was quite busy with the social scene in London and the only time we could get together was early one morning after she had attended a Ball, and before returning to her home at Henley-on-Thames. So, we had a nice visit sitting on the beds in the room I shared with, my cousin Diana. Years later when I was telling my dear old pal Moo, who was also in our year at KHC, about it she of course asked, 'What did she look like?' to which I replied, 'Oh, she was just Hank in a long dress!' The friendships made during our days at Compton lasted a life time, no matter where we met. Many of those lovely friends are now gone, but I always treasure the memories of my days at KHC, and the friends made."

**Naomi Smith Abbott, KHC'50**, is living with her husband Tony Abbott BCS'49, in Victoria in a small "independent living" seniors home. She says: "We are on the inner har-

bour close to the legislature. An ideal spot. Almost Everything is a walk or scooter ride away. Hi to all us Gilly's girls."

Our sympathies to **Ann Mitchell (nee Cameron), KHC'53**, following the passing of her husband Bradley W. Mitchell, BCS'53. From his obit: "Loyalty and generosity were his defining qualities, especially to his family, who he loved so dearly. He loved to welcome people from around the world to his home. Whenever there was a friend in need, or a cause to be supported, he was there before a call for help was even placed."

**Kate Reed, KHC'59**, (who uses her maiden name), has just published a most interesting historical biography of her grandmother of the same name. The book launch was at the McCord Museum Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>. The museum's archives house the Reed papers as well as the correspondence, historical items, photographs, etc. which are used by historians, writers and students. More info at [www.katereed.ca](http://www.katereed.ca). Contact: [katesbook@gmail.com](mailto:katesbook@gmail.com) to order the book for \$40.00.



Our condolences to **Ann Esdaile Goldsmith, KHC'67**, whose mother, Moira Esdaile, passed away on Nov. 11, 2016. She had a grand life and died at 95. As Ann says: "She sent me to boarding school because she had wanted to go so badly (and did everything naughty in the hopes of being sent), but her father felt that girls didn't need an education."